

# Montana State Legislature

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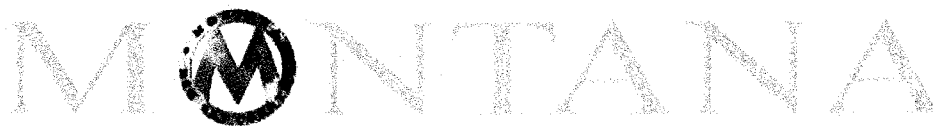
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QUALITY SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM  
2013 Biennium Project Funding Recommendations  
2011 Biennium Emergency, Planning, and Project  
Grants Report



***Department of Commerce***

Dore Schwinden, Director

December 2010

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# 2013 Biennium Quality Schools Projects Recommended for Funding

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) administers the Quality Schools Grant Program, created by HB 152 (Chapter 377, Laws 2009) and codified at Sections 90-6-801, *et seq.*, MCA. The Quality Schools Grant Program provides a competitive grant program for (1) school facility and technology grants; (2) matching planning grants; and (3) emergency grants for public school districts in Montana (elementary districts and high school districts as defined in 20-6-101, MCA, or a K-12 school district as defined in 20-6-701, MCA).

Funding for Quality Schools grants comes from a school facility and technology special revenue account, which includes a combination of revenue from the timber harvest on common school trust lands, mineral royalties transferred from the guarantee account in Section 20-9-622, MCA, and rental income received from power site leases as provided in Section 77-4-208, MCA.

Quality Schools project grants are available on a competitive basis for: construction of a new school; major repairs or deferred maintenance to an existing school; major improvements or enhancements to an existing school; or information technology infrastructure, including installations, upgrades, or improvements, to an existing school.

Commerce received 74 grant applications for the 2013 Biennium Quality Schools Project Grants. Staff reviewed and ranked the applications based on the criteria set forth in the Program's Application Guidelines and Administration Manual, and prioritized the applications as forth in Section 90-6-811, MCA. Commerce Director Dore Schwinden submitted his final list of recommended projects and the form and amount of financial assistance for each project to the Governor. The Governor reviewed the projects recommended by Commerce and has submitted to the legislature a list of recommendations as to the projects and the form and amount of financial assistance for each project (HB 15, Sesso). The recommendations include 16 energy efficiency projects, 6 projects protecting public health and safety, 3 projects that enhance educational opportunities, 3 code compliance projects, 1 technology project, and 1 project to bring a school into compliance with current accreditation standards. The Governor recommends these 30 projects be funded in the amounts shown below, for a total project grant appropriation of \$11,069,265. The Quality Schools Program statute provides that the Legislature will make the final decisions on funding awards and make the necessary appropriations for those grants.

Individual score sheets for applications and summaries for applications not recommended for funding are available at: <http://commerce.mt.gov/qualityschools/default.mcp.x>.

# QUALITY SCHOOLS GRANT PROGRAM

## Project Grant Recommendations for the 2013 Biennium

Rank	Applicant	County	Project Description	QS Funds Requested	QS Funds Eligible	Cumulative Proposed Award
1	Big Sandy Public Schools	Chouteau	Lighting Retrofit and Occupancy Sensors	\$ 124,340	\$ 124,340	\$ 124,340
2	Sweet Grass County HS	Sweet Grass	Update/Remodel of Ventilation/ Air Handling System	\$ 207,500	\$ 207,500	\$ 331,840
3	Somers Elementary	Flathead	Replace roof at Somers Middle School	\$ 418,142	\$ 418,142	\$ 749,982
4	Box Elder Elementary	Hill	Four-classroom addition to the elementary school	\$ 799,590	\$ 799,590	\$ 1,549,572
5	Winnett K-12 Schools	Petroleum	Complete new shop building; purchase equipment	\$ 565,450	\$ 314,107	\$ 1,863,679
6	White Sulphur Springs HS	Meagher	Replace boiler with geothermal heating system	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 2,213,679
7	Helena Elementary	Lewis & Clark	ADA Compliance for 5 Schools	\$ 1,429,796	\$ 1,429,796	\$ 3,643,475
8	Gardiner High School	Park	Energy efficiency upgrades	\$ 77,500	\$ 43,694	\$ 3,687,169
9	Centerville Public Schools	Cascade	Boiler Replacement	\$ 148,534	\$ 148,534	\$ 3,835,703
10	Shelby Elementary	Toole	Correct building envelope leakage	\$ 146,904	\$ 146,904	\$ 3,982,607
11	Fair-Mont-Egan Elementary	Flathead	Classroom Addition	\$ 379,110	\$ 379,110	\$ 4,361,717
12	Livingston Elementary	Park	Replace failing roof	\$ 709,336	\$ 709,336	\$ 5,071,053
13	Corvallis K-12 Schools	Ravalli	Construction of a new vocational facility	\$ 1,086,516	\$ 901,318	\$ 5,972,371
14	North Star Public Schools	Hill	Install fire alarm systems	\$ 123,386	\$ 123,386	\$ 6,095,757
15	Choteau Public Schools	Teton	Remedy safety issues identified with the district's food service facilities	\$ 344,400	\$ 344,400	\$ 6,440,157
16	Miles City Elementary	Custer	Temperature controls upgrade	\$ 442,841	\$ 442,841	\$ 6,882,998
17	Shelby High School	Toole	Lighting retrofit	\$ 102,985	\$ 102,895	\$ 6,985,893
18	Rocky Boy Public Schools	Hill	Emergency Generator Replacement	\$ 72,650	\$ 72,650	\$ 7,058,543
19	Whitefish High School	Flathead	Phase I redevelopment of HS campus (gym)	\$ 738,239	\$ 658,019	\$ 7,716,562
20	Colstrip Elementary	Rosebud	Temperature controls upgrade	\$ 329,153	\$ 329,153	\$ 8,045,715
21	Whitehall High School	Jefferson	Roof replacement on High School	\$ 534,232	\$ 534,232	\$ 8,579,947
22	Stanford K-12 Schools	Judith Basin	Boiler Replacement	\$ 220,500	\$ 220,500	\$ 8,800,447
23	Grass Range Public Schools	Fergus	Air-lock doors & breezeway	\$ 38,315	\$ 38,315	\$ 8,838,762
24	Superior K-12 Schools	Mineral	Life Skills classroom and locker room expansion	\$ 521,162	\$ 521,162	\$ 9,359,924
25	Geraldine Public Schools	Chouteau	Energy efficiency improvements	\$ 164,000	\$ 106,900	\$ 9,466,824
26	Bozeman High School	Gallatin	Lighting retrofit	\$ 109,087	\$ 109,087	\$ 9,575,911
27	Frazer Public Schools	Valley	Installation of high efficiency boiler	\$ 243,086	\$ 243,086	\$ 9,818,997
28	Libby K-12 Schools	Lincoln	Replace HS boiler	\$ 391,470	\$ 391,470	\$ 10,210,467
29	Hamilton K-12 Schools	Ravalli	Boiler & heat distribution system replacement	\$ 751,000	\$ 751,000	\$ 10,961,467
30	Bozeman Elementary	Gallatin	Lighting retrofit	\$ 107,798	\$ 107,798	\$ 11,069,265
Totals				\$ 11,677,022	\$ 11,069,265	\$ 11,069,265

**Big Sandy Public Schools  
Chouteau County  
Statutory Priority #4 (Energy Efficiency Improvements)  
Quality Schools Grant Program – 2013 Biennium**

This application received 379 points out of a possible 500 points and ranked #1 out of 66 ranked applications. Commerce recommends a \$124,340 Quality Schools Project Grant to the Big Sandy Elementary and High School Districts for the 2013 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount	Project %
Commerce	Quality Schools Project Grant	\$124,340	98% of Project
Northwestern Energy	Rebate	\$2,877	2% of Project
Project Total		\$127,217	

**Project Summary**

**History** – This project is intended to solve energy conservation problems for the Big Sandy School District (F.E. Miley School & High School). Based on a 2009 energy audit and 2010 energy evaluation, these facilities are in need of an energy efficient upgrade to reduce utility costs. Old light fixtures and switches are concerns which will be addressed and fixed by this project.

**Problem** – The school district has the following deficiencies:

- ☐ Old, high-energy T-12 style-light fixtures
- ☐ Metal-halide gym light fixtures
- ☐ Outdated light switches

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- ☐ Replace outdated light fixtures with energy efficient T-8 models
- ☐ Replace outdated gym lighting with energy efficient compact florescent high-bay fixtures
- ☐ Occupancy sensors in all necessary rooms

**Sweet Grass County High School  
Sweet Grass County  
Statutory Priority #4 (Energy Efficiency Improvements)  
Quality Schools Grant Program Projects  
2013 Biennium**

This application received 378.8 points out of a possible 500 points and ranked #2 out of 66 ranked applications. Commerce recommends a \$207,500 Quality Schools Project Grant to Sweet Grass County High School District for the 2013 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount	Project %
Commerce	Quality Schools Project Grant	\$207,500	87% of Project
Sweet Grass Co. HS District	Metal Mines Fund	\$20,000	9% of Project
Sweet Grass Co. HS District	Building Reserve	\$10,000	4% of Project
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$237,500</b>	

**Project Summary**

**History – (Comment-Acronyms may raise questions)** The current HVAC system serving the Sweet Grass County High School is outdated and uses extreme amounts of energy. The district has conducted ample planning for the facility, including an NCAT Project Review, JGA Site Review, Master Facility Plan, Northwestern Energy Audit, and MKK Energy Audit. The 2009 MKK Audit concluded that "the constant volume multi-zone air handling system, which currently serves most of the building, is extremely energy inefficient and not allowed under current energy codes." The project will retrofit the HVAC system to increase ventilation, have variable air volume capabilities, and create better control of the system through school wide digital components.

**Problem –** The school district has the following deficiencies:

- ☐ Current HVAC system is outdated and consuming mass quantities of energy
- ☐ Pneumatic controls are outdated and not properly performing with current system

**Proposed Solution –** The proposed project would:

- ☐ Retro-fit/replace ventilation systems in FCS, art, and science rooms
- ☐ Convert HVAC multi-zone systems to VAV- including motors, heating coils, digital controls, and variable frequency drive components (7 air handlers in building)
- ☐ Replace pneumatic controls with direct digital controls



**Somers Elementary  
Flathead County  
Statutory Priority #1 (Public Health and Safety)  
Quality Schools Grant Program Projects  
2013 Biennium**

This application received 376.5 points out of a possible 500 points and ranked #3 out of 66 ranked applications. Commerce recommends a \$418,142 Quality Schools Project Grant to the Somers Elementary District for the 2013 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount	Project %
Commerce	Quality Schools Project Grant	\$418,142	95% of Project
Somers Elementary School District	General Fund	\$10,402	2.5% of Project
Commerce	Emergency Grant	\$10,020	2.5% of Project
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$438,564</b>	

**Project Summary**

**History** – Somers Middle School is a building constructed in three phases: The 1950s wing (originally the entirety of the building), the 1960s wing and the 1990s wing. The roof on the two later wings is 25 years old. It is a flat rubber roof that has been repaired numerous times. The Montana State Facilities Condition Assessment conducted in 2008 indicates that the roof has been leaking and needs to be replaced. It states that dry rot is visible, but it was not able to note with detail the extent of mold growth in the sub-roof area. The Flathead County Health Department has since advised the district of the need to replace the roof, sub-roof and ceiling due to the presence of a large amount of mold. The letter from the Health Department outlines the development of mold and the dangers to individuals who spend time within a contaminated building.

The roof has been leaking for some time, but was not detected until the winter of 2008 to 2009 because water had been absorbed by the insulation above the ceiling. When the insulation finally became saturated, the water began dripping into the building. According to an assessment conducted in February 2009, the remedy to the problem will require complete removal and replacement of the roof, insulation, sheathing and ceiling in the two affected wings. When all material has been removed, the extent of the deterioration of the wood joists can be determined and new joists installed where needed.

**Problem** – The school district has the following deficiencies:

- ☐ Two thirds of the roof on Somers Middle School is damaged and presents a serious threat to the health and safety of students and staff due to the loss of structural integrity and the widespread presence of mold in the wood, insulation and ceilings.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- ☐ Replace the roof as well as the insulation and ceiling tile that has become water logged and laden with mold due to the constant presence of water.

**Box Elder Elementary  
Hill County  
Statutory Priority #6 (Enhances Educational Opportunities)  
Quality Schools Grant Program Projects  
2013 Biennium**

This application received #368.8 points out of a possible 500 points and ranked #4 out of 66 ranked applications. Commerce recommends a \$799,590 Quality Schools Project Grant to the Box Elder Elementary School District for the 2013 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount	Project %
Commerce	Quality Schools Project Grant	\$799,590	56% of Project
Box Elder Elementary School District	Impact Aid Construction Grant	\$636,460	44% of Project
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$1,436,050</b>	

**Project Summary**

**History** – Due to increasing enrollment, the Box Elder School District had a basement commodity and supply storage area converted to classrooms for students in the 1990's. These classrooms do not have proper lighting or ventilation, and the only fire escape route is up non-regulation flight of stairs, as the classrooms do not have egress windows. Currently, two classes of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are receiving core subjects in these classrooms, and are spending 70% of their day in an environment that does not enhance their educational environment. The district proposes a 4 classroom addition to their facility in order to eliminate the use of basement storage space for student classrooms.

**Problem** – The school district has the following deficiencies:

- ❑ Two classes of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are spending 70% of their school day in basement storage spaces converted to classrooms, which do not provide proper ventilation, lighting, or egress windows for fire safety and are not conducive to an educational learning environment.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- ❑ Build a four classroom addition, which will be located west of the current K-3 addition and will be tied in the school's mechanical room in the K-3 addition. This will provide classrooms for two 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes, a third class of 1<sup>st</sup> graders, and the anticipated incoming kindergarten class.

**Winnett K-12 Schools  
Petroleum County  
Statutory Priority #5 (Technology Needs)  
Quality Schools Grant Program Projects  
2013 Biennium**

This application received 355.5 points out of a possible 500 points and ranked 5 out of 66 ranked applications. Commerce recommends a \$120,050 Quality Schools Project Grant to Winnett K-12 School District for the 2013 Biennium.

Funding Source	Type of Funds	Amount	Project %
Commerce	Quality Schools Project Grant	\$120,050	99% of Project
Winnett K-12 School District	General Fund	\$1,000	1% of Project
Partners in Education	General	\$250	<1% of Project
<b>Project Total</b>		<b>\$121,300</b>	

**Project Summary**

**History** – The current vocational equipment available to students in the Winnett School District is outdated and does not provide the proper training for students who wish to pursue technical careers in vocational fields. The students need new technology and industry training in order to be qualified for today's job market.

**Problem** – The school district has the following deficiencies:

- ☐ Current vocational equipment is outdated and not up to current technological standards.

**Proposed Solution** – The proposed project would:

- ☐ Provide the students with equipment to become technologically literate with industry standards and better prepare them for current and future job opportunities.
- ☐ Equipment will include: Industry Welders, Media Blaster, PlasmaCam CNC Plasma Cutter with applicable software, and VMC 1300 CNC Mill with accessories.